

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 04590 130943Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 IO-13 DOE-11 SOE-02 NRC-05
OES-07 /119 W
-----004967 131018Z /14

R 130652Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5424
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 0459

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PK, PINT
SUBJECT: GENERAL ZIA TALKS WITH JOURNALISTS - REPROCESSING,
VAJPAYEE VISIT, AND BHUTTO MENTIONED

1. ACCORDING TO DAILY PRESS, CHIEF MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR
(CMLA) ZIA, AT A DINNER JANUARY 11 HE HOSTED FOR BRITISH
JOURNALISTS TRAVELLING WITH PM CALLAGHAN, MADE THE FOLLOWING
POINTS:
-- INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VAJPAYEE MAY VISIT PAKISTAN IN THE NEAR
FUTURE AT GOP INVITATION. ZIA HAD "NO INHIBITION" ABOUT GOING TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 04590 130943Z

INDIA AND WOULD BE PREPARED TO DO SO SOMETIME IN FEBRUARY. HE IS
ALSO READY TO WELCOME INDIAN PMUDESAI TO ISLAMABAD. (ZIA HELD
PUBLICIZED MEETING WITH INDIAN AMB BAJPAI LAST WEEK. PAK PRESS
JANUARY 13 CARRIES STORY THAT DESAI HAS INDICATED THAT VAJPAYEE
WILL VISIT ISLAMABAD IN LATE JANUARY/EARLY FEBRUARY.)
--SIX MORE CASES AGAINST FORMER PM BHUTTO ARE READY TO BE FILED IN
COURT. (ZIA ALSO SAID, ALTHOUGH NOT CARRIED IN THE PRESS, THAT THE

CASES WILL BE ANNOUNCED ABOUT JANUARY 26 AND WILL INCLUDE
"SUBVERSION OF THE CONSTITUTION.")
--ZIA'S "HOPE" THAT ELECTIONS WOULD BE HELD IN 1978; HE GAVE NO
DATE OTHER THAN SAYING THEY WOULD NOT TAKE PLACE IN MARCH.

2. ACCORDING TO BBC CORRESPONDENT WHO ATTENDED DINNER, ZIA ALSO
COMMENTED ON THE RECORD ABOUT THE REPROCESSING PLANT IMBROGLIO
ALTHOUGH, WE ASSUME AT GOP DIRECTION, HIS COMMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN
CARRIED IN THE LOCAL PRESS. ZIA SAID THAT HE PERSONALLY IS NOT
EMOTIONAL ABOUT REPROCESSING, BUT IT IS A "HOT ISSUE" IN PAKISTAN.
THE CMLA STATED THE US WAS PUTTING PRESSURE ON PAKISTAN AND, WHEN
ASKED WHAT KIND, REPLIED "THEY HAVE THREATENED TO CUT OFF AID."
OFF THE RECORD HE ADDED THAT "AMERICANS ARE NOT SOPHISTICATED
DIPLOMATS OR POLITICIANS" AND REPEATED THE PAKISTANI FOLK WISDOM
THAT DEMOCRATIC ADMINISTRATIONS FAVOR INDIA AND REPUBLICAN,
PAKISTAN.

3. IN DISCUSSION ABOUT BHUTTO, ZIA SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HE IS NOT A
SPENT FORCE IN PAKISTANI POLITICS, HIS ONLY FOLLOWERS NOW ARE
THOSE WHO BENEFITTED FROM HIS POLITICAL PATRONAGE (SIC). THE CMLA
REITERATED HE WOULD NOT ACCEPT ANY ELECTIVE OFFICE IN PAKISTAN,
INCLUDING PRESIDENT, AND HE SAID THAT AFTER A CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT
IS INSTALLED, HE WILL RETIRE AS CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF. HE MENTIONED
THAT THE MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATION AND SOME OF THE POLITICAL
PARTIES HAVE DISCUSSED VARIOUS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS. OTHER
THAN SAYING THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS DID NOT INCLUDE A LARGER
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 04590 130943Z

CONSTITUTIONAL ROLE FOR THE MILITARY, HE DID NOT ELABORATE.

4. ZIA ADDED THAT HE WOULD DISCUSS WITH PM CALLAGHAN THE
POSSIBILITY OF PAKISTAN'S REJOINING THE COMMONWEALTH; PRESS
REPORTS QUOTE HIM AS SAYING ONLY THAT A DECISION ON PAKISTANI
COMMONWEALTH MEMBERSHIP MUST BE LEFT TO A SUCCESSOR GOVERNMENT.
HUMMEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: JOURNALISTS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ISLAMA04590
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780020-0094
Format: TEL
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780168/aaaacfhfhp.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bc32fce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3781560
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GENERAL ZIA TALKS WITH JOURNALISTS - REPROCESSING, VAJPAYEE VISIT, AND BHUTTO MENTIONED
TAGS: PINT, SOPN, PK, (ZIA UL-HAQ, MOHAMMAD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bc32fce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014